the flyover or in approach roads has been observed.

(c) The necessary repairs to bitumenous surface have been carried out.

Misuse of Baba Khimman Singh Park in Ashok Vihar

3022. SHRI SURYABHAN PATIL VAHADANE: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item regarding the misuse of Baba Khimman Singh Park (District Park) in Ashok Vihar, Phase-III, New Delhi and damage of a large chunk of green area, which appeared in the Times of India, dated the 5th July, 2001;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether he has instructed DDA to ensure that the trees and green area in general and that of Baba Khimman Singh Park are not ruined;

(d) whether the DDA has not complied with the instructions; and

(e) if not, the action proposed by Government to be taken against the guilty officers of DDA?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA): (a) and (b) In the news-item published in the Times of India dated 5th July, 2001, it has been reported that DDA has been allotting space in Baba Khimman Singh Park for Ram Lila function thereby damaging the plants and trees of the park.

(c) to (e) The Government has instructed DDA to ensure this park is not used for purposes other than green and trees/plants are not cut or damaged. The DDA has reported that it has complied with the instruction of the Ministry.

News-item "Family Sells child to survive"

3023. DR. KARAN SINGH: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Family Sells child to survive" which appeared in the Statesman dated 19th February, 2001 which reported that a Bolangir (Orissa) family had to sell their three years old daughter for just Rs. 5000/-; and

(b) if so, the steps taken and the arrangements made so that supercyclone hit poverty stricken people are not driven to sell their children in different States, especially the calamity hit areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The complete details and follow up action taken will be obtained from Government of Orissa and laid on the Table of the House.

Increasing annual growth rate of cities due to growth of slums

†3024. SHRI KAPIL SIBAL:
SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH "LALAN":

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that due to coming up of slums in the urban areas of the country the annual growth rate has increased by approximately nine per cent during the nineties;

(b) if not, the annual growth rate of these slums in the cities where population is either more than 50 lakhs or more than 10 lakhs or more than 1 lakh; and

(c) the number of the cities of above category which came-up during the nineties?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA): (a) to (c) The slum population and its growth rate figures of 2001 Census has not been published by the Office of the Registrar General of India and Census Commissioner of India. Slum Development being a State subject, State Governments survey and take stock of slums in their respective States and formulate/implement specific plans, programmes and schemes for development of slums in various cities as per their priorities and make necessary provision therefor in their respective State plans. However, the Town and Country Planning Organisation (TCPO) conducted a study on slums in 1995-96 and brought a report titled "A Compendium on Indian Slums-1996". According to this report the estimated/identified slum population of cities having urban

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.